

## OUR SPEAKERS

### Stephen E. Berken

STEPHEN E. BERKEN is a partner with Berken Cloyes, PC. His practice focuses on areas of consumer bankruptcy law. Mr. Berken earned his B.A. degree, *cum laude*, from the University of California in 1981, and his J.D. degree from Hastings College of the Law, University of California in 1984. Mr. Berken is a frequent lecturer before various professional groups. Mr. Berken handles cases involving Chapter 7 and 13, defense and prosecution of bankruptcy adversary matters.

He is the Colorado state chair for the *National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys*. He is the founding member of the *Colorado Consumer Bankruptcy Association*. He is the creator of the Colorado Debtors' Counsel Listserv, an Internet-based source of information for debtors' counsel in the state of Colorado. The Listserv is provided as a free service to counsel of the Debtors' Bar. Mr. Berken is on the ABI Advisory Board for Colorado. Mr. Berken is a board-certified expert in consumer bankruptcy, *American Bankruptcy Board of Certification*. He is the state chair for C.A.R.E. (Credit Abuse Resistance Education). Mr. Berken was named Bankruptcy Attorney of the Year by *5280 Magazine* for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

**Academic Information:** B.A., Political Science, University of California, 1981, Cum Laude; J.D., Hastings College of the Law, University of California, 1984 Date admitted to practice: November 1, 1985.

Mr. Berken has been a presenter at the following seminars:

ABI Consumer Workshop III, *Riding the Circuits—Case law update, eligibility, consumer Chapter 11*, January 2009; *Around the World in 80 Days*, Bankruptcy Case update, ABI 2010; 12th Annual Rocky Mountain Conference *The Means Test*, January 25, 2007, presenter. ABI Consumer Workshop 2015; ABI conference, Arizona December 3, 2015 *Estate planning, divorce and bankruptcy: When Worlds Collide*; Debate, Las Vegas 2016 *FDCPA v. Bankruptcy; Litigation on a Budget*, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference, January 2, 2018; NACBA 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, *Litigation on a Budget*, April 2018; 2019 ABI Southwest Bankruptcy Conference, *Consumer Workshop on Evidence*.

### Sean Cloyes

Sean Cloyes partnered with Stephen E. Berken to form Berken Cloyes in 2016. Sean graduated from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. The Psychology degree is used daily, and by daily he means never.

He also obtained his Juris Doctorate from dear old Nebraska U. Nebraska once was good at football. Sean is a member of the Colorado Bar Association. He is admitted to practice in Federal and State Courts and Agencies in Colorado. Prior to the admiration and glory of working at Berken Cloyes, Sean joined the Colorado Springs law firm of Kinnaird Cloyes & Kinnaird, P.C., in June 2001, becoming a partner in 2005. From approximately 2005-2014, Sean was chair of the El Paso County Bar Association Bankruptcy Subsection, during which time he taught semi-monthly CLE's to other attorneys and served as a liaison between the Colorado Bankruptcy Court Judges and the El Paso County Bar. Most impressively, he has been voted Best Bankruptcy Attorney by the 7 readers of the world-renowned Colorado Springs Style Magazine. You might have seen this magazine in a Colorado Springs area Supercuts or Fantastic Sams. But you haven't.

Though a native Nebraskan, Sean considers Colorado home and enjoys mountain biking, wakeboarding, hiking and playing softball at an average level. He can throw a football farther than Joe Flacco and blames Texas for the collapse of the Big 12.